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Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

1. (currently amended) A method for obtaining a status, wherein a server computer and a client computer connected to a network share a printer connected to said server computer, said method comprising:

obtaining from a registry of the client computer a two-way communication flag which is set by a user utilizing a user interface of the client computer;

determining whether the two-way communication flag is set in a state where [[the]] two-way communication is enabled, and if the two-way communication flag is in the state where the two-way communication is enabled, enabling two-way communication regardless of an operating system of the client computer and obtaining status information of the printer via the server computer;

obtaining from the registry, in a case where the two-way communication is enabled, printer information set by the operating system of the client computer; and

determining whether a two-way flag of the printer information is ON after the printer information is obtained, and in a case where the two-way flag is ON, executing the two-way communication.

2. (original) The method for obtaining the status information as claimed in claim 1, wherein

said status information to be obtained is at least one of option information indicating

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whether a mountable option is mounted on said printer, version information regarding a version of said printer, and status displaying information regarding a status of said printer.

3. (previously presented) A printer driver applicable to a system in which a server computer and a client computer connected to a network share a printer connected to said server computer, comprising:

a user interface including a two-way communication setting screen for a user to set a two-way communication flag stored in a registry of the client computer, and a print property screen for showing print property information; and

a two-way communication unit to obtain status information of said printer by performing two-way communication with said server computer,

wherein when the two-way communication flag stored in the registry of the client computer is set to a state to indicate that the two-way communication is enabled, the two-way communication is enabled regardless of an operating system of the client computer, and

wherein in a case when the print property screen is opened and the printer driver determines that the two-way communication is enabled, the printer driver obtains printer information set by the operating system of the client computer from the registry of the client computer, determines after the printer information is obtained whether a two-way flag in the printer information is ON, and in a case where the two-way flag in the printer information is ON, the two-way communication is executed.

4. (previously presented) The printer driver as claimed in claim 3, wherein:

the two-way communication unit performs the two-way communication by using a

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language monitor of said server computer as a server; and

the two-way communication unit performs the two-way communication without depending on an operating system.

5. (previously presented) The printer driver as claimed in claim 3, wherein the status information to be obtained by said printer driver is at least one of option information indicating whether a mountable option is mounted on said printer, version information regarding a version of said printer, and status displaying information regarding a status of said printer.

6. (previously presented) An information processing device in a system including the information processing device and a server computer which are connected to a network and share a printer connected to said server computer, said information processing device comprising:

a registry configured to store printer information and a two-way communication flag;

a user interface including a two-way communication setting screen for a user to set the two-way communication flag stored in said registry, and a print property screen for showing print property information;

a two-way communication unit to obtain status information of said printer by performing two-way communication with said server computer,

wherein when the two-way communication flag stored in said registry is set to a state to indicate that the two-way communication is enabled, the two-way communication is enabled regardless of an operating system of said information processing device, and

wherein in a case when the print property screen is opened and the two-way communication unit determines that the two-way communication is enabled, the two-way

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communication unit obtains printer information set by the operating system from the registry and determines after the printer information is obtained whether a two-way flag in the printer information is ON, and in a case where the two-way flag in the printer information is ON, the two-way communication unit executes the two-way communication.

7. (previously presented) The information processing device as claimed in claim 6, wherein:

the two-way communication unit performs the two-way communication by using a language monitor of said server computer as a server; and

the two-way communication unit performs the two-way communication without depending on an operating system.

8. (previously presented) The information processing device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the status information to be obtained is at least one of option information indicating whether a mountable option is mounted on said printer, version information regarding a version of said printer, and status displaying information regarding a status of said printer.

9. (previously presented) The information processing device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the status information to be obtained is at least one of option information indicating whether a mountable option is mounted on said printer, version information regarding a version of said printer, and status displaying information regarding a status of said printer.

10. (previously presented) The printer driver as claimed in claim 4, wherein the status

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information to be obtained by said printer driver is at least one of option information indicating whether a mountable option is mounted on said printer, version information regarding a version of said printer, and status displaying information regarding a status of said printer.